



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 972

LCO No. 4993



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:
(PD)

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO ORIGINAL BIRTH RECORDS BY ADULT ADOPTED PERSONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 7-53 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2019*):

4 (c) Upon request, the department shall issue an uncertified copy of
5 an original certificate of birth to (1) an adopted person who is eighteen
6 years of age or older, [whose adoption was finalized on or after
7 October 1, 1983,] or (2) such adopted person's adult child or
8 grandchild. Such certificate shall be marked with a notation by the
9 issuer that such original certificate of birth has been superseded by a
10 replacement certificate of birth as on file. Additionally, a notice stating
11 that information related to the birth parents' preferences regarding
12 contact by such adopted person or such adopted person's adult child
13 or grandchild and a medical health history form completed by the
14 birth parent may be on file with the Department of Children and
15 Families shall be printed on such certificate or attached thereto.

16 Sec. 2. Section 7-53a of the general statutes is repealed and the
17 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

18 [(a) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter until
19 January 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Public Health shall submit a
20 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, concerning
21 the number of original birth certificates issued annually to adopted
22 persons eighteen years of age or older whose adoption was finalized
23 on or after October 1, 1983, or the adult children or grandchildren of
24 adopted persons in accordance with section 7-53, to the joint standing
25 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
26 relating to public health.]

27 [(b)] Not later than January 1, [2016] 2020, and annually thereafter
28 until January 1, [2021] 2025, the Commissioner of Children and
29 Families shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
30 section 11-4a, concerning the number of contact preference forms and
31 medical health history forms annually filed with the department in
32 accordance with section 17a-60a to the joint standing committee of the
33 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
34 health. The report shall include the number of birth parents that
35 selected each option described in section 17a-60a.

36 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 45a-751b of the general statutes is
37 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
38 *1, 2019*):

39 (c) Regardless of the date parental rights were terminated, on or
40 after July 1, [2015] 2019, the Department of Public Health shall, upon
41 request, issue an uncertified copy of an original birth certificate to an
42 adopted person eighteen years of age or older who is the subject of the
43 birth certificate, [and whose adoption was finalized on or after October
44 1, 1983,] or such adopted person's adult child or grandchild, in
45 accordance with the provisions of section 7-53, as amended by this act.

46 Sec. 4. Section 45a-751c of the general statutes is repealed and the
47 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

48 [(a) On the petition of an adopted person who is eighteen years of
49 age or older and whose adoption was finalized prior to October 1,
50 1983, or such adopted person's adult child or grandchild, the Probate
51 Court or the Superior Court that finalized an adoption or appointed a
52 guardian ad litem in accordance with section 45a-753 shall issue an
53 order directing the Department of Public Health to issue an uncertified
54 copy of an original birth certificate to such adopted person or such
55 adopted person's child or grandchild in accordance with subsection (b)
56 of section 7-53, provided each birth parent named on the original birth
57 certificate: (1) Consents to the release of identifying information in
58 accordance with sections 45a-751 to 45a-751b, inclusive; (2) is deceased;
59 or (3) a legal representative or guardian ad litem consents to the
60 release of identifying information on behalf of the birth parent in
61 accordance with section 45a-753. Nothing in this section shall limit the
62 right of an adopted person eighteen years of age or older whose
63 adoption was finalized on or after October 1, 1983, or such adopted
64 person's adult child or grandchild to obtain an uncertified copy of an
65 original birth certificate pursuant to section 7-53.]

66 [(b)] On the petition of an authorized applicant, as defined in section
67 45a-743, the Probate Court or the Superior Court that finalized an
68 adoption or appointed a guardian ad litem in accordance with section
69 45a-753 shall issue an order directing the Department of Public Health
70 to issue an uncertified copy of an original birth certificate to the
71 authorized applicant in accordance with subsection (b) of section 7-53,
72 provided the person named in the certificate of birth is deceased and
73 (1) each birth parent named on the original birth certificate [: (1)
74 Consents] (A) consents to the release of identifying information, in
75 accordance with sections 45a-751 to 45a-751b, inclusive, as amended by
76 this act, [; (2)] or (B) is deceased, [; or (3)] or (2) a legal representative or
77 guardian ad litem consents to the release of identifying information on
78 behalf of the birth parent, in accordance with section 45a-753.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	7-53(c)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	7-53a
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	45a-751b(c)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	45a-751c

Statement of Purpose:

To grant access to original birth records to all adopted persons eighteen years of age or older who were born in Connecticut regardless of date of birth.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]